

2. Government therefore direct that the courts of Bench Magistrates mentioned below be abolished with effect from the 1st April 1926—

1. Hassan District

2. Kolar District

3. Kadur

4. Mysore District

5. Tumkur District

6. Shimoga District

Hole-Narsipur

Saklespur

Kolar

Chikballapur

Tarike

Mandya

French Rocks

Hunsur

Maddur

Tiptur

Sagar

Tirthahalli

3. The Special Magistrates will, from that date, take cognizance of all classes of cases arising within their jurisdiction and hitherto tried by the Bench Courts hereby abolished. The District Magistrates concerned will arrange to transfer the cases pending on the files of the Bench Courts to the Special Magistrates in their respective jurisdiction.

4. A separate notification will issue withdrawing the powers of the Honorary Bench Magistrates of these Bench Courts.

B. NAGAPPA,

Secretary to Government,

Local and Legislative Departments.

FINANCIAL SECRETARIAT.

Duty Allowances.

READ—

Government Order No. FI. 6723-72—S. & A. 166-19-1, dated 24th March 1920, regulating the grant of Duty Allowances and stating that such allowances should be treated as "salary" for purposes of calculating leave and travelling allowances, but are not included in the term "emoluments" for purposes of pension.

ORDER No. FI. 5438-97—S. & A. 82-25-1, DATED 25TH MARCH 1926.

Government are pleased to direct that Duty Allowances proper, but not Deputation Duty Allowances, be permitted to reckon for pension. This order will have effect from 17th March 1926.

Necessary amendments to the Mysore Service Regulations, will issue separately.

B. SRINIVASA IYENGAR,

Financial Secretary to Government.

PUBLIC WORKS SECRETARIAT.

Administration Report of the Public Works Department.

READ—

Administration Report of the Public Works Department for the year 1924-25, received from the Chief Engineer of Mysore with his letter No. 530, dated the 3rd December 1925.

ORDER No. P. W. 3323-29—B, DATED 20TH MARCH 1926.

Recorded.

2. There has been a delay of over a month in the submission of the Report, and Government hope that necessary arrangements will be made for the submission of the same punctually in future.

3. *Personnel.*—Mr. J. Bhore continued to be Chief Engineer during the year under review, and Mr. K. R. Seshachar was Secretary to Government, Public Works, and Electrical Departments, and also Special Officer, Krishnarajasagara Works.

4. *Grant and outlay.*—The final grant for the department under all heads was Rs. 44,76,064, against which an outlay of Rs. 38,14,743 was incurred, resulting in a lapse of Rs. 6,61,321. Besides, an outlay of Rs. 2,50,863 was incurred from sources, such as, contributions, etc., bringing the total expenditure of the department during the year to Rs. 40,65,606 against Rs. 43,11,538 during the previous year.

The lapse as observed above amounts to over six and a half lakhs of rupees and is heavy and no explanation is given for the same. Arrangements should be made with a view to avoid such heavy lapses in future.

5. *Irrigation Works.*—The expenditure incurred on irrigation works, original, amounted to Rs. 3,15,260 against the grant of Rs. 3,08,706, the important works that were in progress being the restoration of Pothaganahalli tank in Tumkur District and Hairige tank, Mysore District, constructing an anicut across the Bhruvu river near Halsur, Mysore District, improving and extending the Lakshmanapur anicut, and constructing an anicut across the Bhadra at Gopala in the Shimoga District.

WATER WORKS.

6. (i) *Chamarajendra Water Works, Bangalore.*—The outlay on these works during the year was Rs. 2,30,724, inclusive of establishment charges, of which a sum Rs. 1,20,613 was charged to State Funds. One thousand two hundred and seventeen million gallons were pumped from the City and the Civil and Military Station head works, and the quantity of filtered water supplied to them from the Combined Jewell Filters amounted to 570 and 590 million gallons, respectively. The total consumption in the City was 570 million gallons, the average consumption being 13.02 gallons per head per day against 13 gallons during the previous year. The number of house connections increased from 4,338 to 4,671. The north-east Monsoon of 1924, during which the Hessarghatta lake receives its usual supplies, was complete failure and there was no appreciable replenishment. The question of water supply, to Bangalore caused much anxiety, and special measures indicated in Government Order No. 1690-5, dated 9th November 1925 have been taken to tide over the difficulty, by reserving and passing down the supplies available in the upper tanks to Hessarghatta and minimising waste in distribution as far as practicable. Schemes for increasing the storage capacity of the tank, improving the duct and duplicating the main, with a view to improve the system of water supply, have been approved in Government Order No. 509-512—Ml. 127-23-13, dated 22nd July 1925, and when the works contemplated are executed, the water supply system of Bangalore will have been placed on a safe basis.

The arrears of excess water charges that remained to be collected at the end of June 1924 amounted to Rs. 9,141, and the amount that remained over for recovery at the end of June 1925 was Rs. 9,919. Effective steps should be taken to collect all the arrears.

(ii) *Vani Vilas Water Works, Mysore.*—The expenditure on these works amounted to Rs. 1,15,720, including establishment charges, the net amount charged to State Funds being Rs. 48,727.

The quantity of water pumped during the year was 635 million gallons against 612 million gallons during the previous year. The number of house service connections rose from 2,570 to 2,800. The daily average consumption in the City was 20.46 gallons against 19.72 in the previous year.

The arrears of excess water charges to be collected amounted to Rs. 28,720 at the end of June 1925, and effective measures should be taken for the recovery of the arrears.

(iii) *Kolar Gold Fields Water Works.*—Three hundred and eighty-three million gallons were pumped during the year, and the maintenance charges amounted to Rs. 1,02,952. The receipts from the Water Works amounted to Rs. 2,19,117 against the budgetted revenue of Rs. 2,20,000. The work of renewing the rising main was practically completed.

(iv) Works connected with improvements to the water supply of Kolar, Chintamani and Chikmagalur towns were completed during the year and handed over to the Municipalities concerned for maintenance.

Civil Buildings.—The expenditure incurred on the construction of, and improvements to, buildings during the year amounted to Rs. 3,87,917 against the grant of Rs. 4,45,555, resulting in a lapse of Rs. 57,638. The principal works in progress were the construction of the High School at Davangere, the New Guests' Mansion at Mysore and the re-wiring of the Fort Palace.

The amount spent on repairs to buildings was Rs. 1,70,646. All Government buildings were maintained in a fair state of repair.

8. *Communications.*—An outlay of Rs. 50,589, was incurred on original works and Rs. 7,35,808 on repairs.

The amount spent during the year on repairs to State Fund roads was Rs. 6,80,372 against Rs. 5,75,243 during the preceding year. The total length of State Roads maintained was 2,061 miles.

It has been brought to the notice of Government that, as a result of the general rise in prices of materials and wages of labour, an increase of about 25 to 50 per cent in the mileage allotments of State Fund roads and of about 50 to 100 per cent in the case of District Fund roads is necessary. In the case of a few roads, both under State Fund and District Fund, the mileage allotment has recently been raised as circumstances permitted. The general question will be taken up separately for consideration when funds are available.

9. *Miscellaneous public improvements.*—A sum of Rs. 38,891 was spent under this head on original works; the important works carried out being sanitary improvements to Shimoga town and constructing a canopy over the Statue of His Highness the late Maharaja.

10. *Departmental works.*—An outlay of Rs. 28,530 was incurred on the construction of buildings of the Military Department, Rs. 28,597 on buildings connected with the University, and Rs. 27,969 on the construction and improvement of Elementary School buildings.

11. *Contribution works.*—An expenditure of Rs. 2,18,358 was incurred on account of these works, which were carried out by the Public Works Department from Muzrai and Municipal Funds, grants from the Government of India, and contributions from private parties and raiyats.

12. *District Funds.*—The sanctioned grant for the year was Rs. 5,70,680 against which an expenditure of Rs. 5,69,486 was incurred, resulting in a lapse of Rs. 1,194.

The total length of the District Fund roads maintained during the year was 3,569 miles.

13. *Irrigation Cess Fund.*—Against the grant of Rs. 3,20,825 under this head, an outlay of Rs. 2,88,225 was incurred, of which a sum of Rs. 2,47,607 was spent on the repair and maintenance of major tanks and annual maintenance of, and special repairs to the river channels in the Mysore and Hassan Districts.

14. *Vani Vilas Sagara.*—The total area under block system was 12,362 acres. Orders were passed by Government during the year removing the restrictions on the nature of crop to be grown on the lands under the Vani Vilas Sagara channels, increasing the water rate from Rs. 5 to Rs. 8; and limiting the area under irrigation to 10,180 acres. However, owing to the strong representations received from the raiyats that the revised rate of assessment was too high, Government, after reconsideration, have recently ordered that the water rate on the lands under Vani Vilas Sagara be fixed at Rs. 6-8-0 per acre for the three years from 1st July 1925, and at Rs. 8 thereafter for a period of five years.

15. *Minor Tank Restoration Scheme.*—The procedure to be adopted in working out and accounting this scheme was changed, much to the benefit of the raiyats. Three hundred and forty-five works were in progress during the year against 304 in the previous year. One hundred and thirty-four works were brought to completion during the year. Against the grant of Rs. 1,00,000, allotted for those works, the reappropriated grant was Rs. 80,000, and the outlay Rs. 72,938. It is reported that the incomplete nature of the estimates prepared by the Marahmat Department, necessitating revision in many cases, want of labour facilities in certain parts, lack of local co-operation, etc., have tended to impede the progress on these works.

Considering that a large number of tanks still remain unrestored and that, even as regards restored tanks, frequent complaints are being received, Government consider that arrangements for a more sustained and systematic method of the restoration and maintenance of tanks are necessary in future. As a preliminary to increasing the grants for tank maintenance and adoption of energetic measures for pushing on the work of restoration, proposals are under consideration to form a Tank Survey Division for the purpose of collecting correct data and preparing projects.

16. *Establishment*.—The total charges under this head amounted to Rs. 7,66,337. The proportion of establishment charges to outlay on works and repairs was 22.6 per cent. against 26.6 during last year.

17. *Touring and inspection*.—The Chief Engineer was 125 days on tour and travelled over 5,116 mi. by road, and inspected 8 Division and 11 Sub-Division Offices during the year. The Executive Engineers inspected almost all the buildings, roads and tank works under their respective charge. All the Sub-Division Officers were also inspected by them. All the Executive Engineers except those of Mysore and Kadur, inspected their Division Office. The Executive Engineers of these two Districts should be called upon to explain their omission.

18. *Flood damages*.—As a result of the unprecedented floods in July 1924, numerous roads, bridges and irrigation works in the Districts of Kadur, Shimoga, Hassan and Mysore sustained serious damages, and prompt steps were taken for rectifying the same. In practically all the cases where damage had been caused to anicuts, temporary arrangements were made for supply of water for irrigation. It is satisfactory to note that the repairs of the damaged works were handled in a prompt and energetic manner by the officers concerned.

In consideration of the fact that the damages were heavy and unexpected and might cause a heavy drain on the resources of the District Boards, Government ordered that a portion of the outlay on repairs to District Fund roads to the extent of Rs. 11,395, in the case of Mysore District, Rs. 15,000 in the Kadur District and Rs. 5,100 in the Shimoga District be borne from State Funds.

The grant sanctioned for flood damage works during the year under review was Rs. 2,79,000, viz. Rs. 2,15,000 for roads and bridges, and Rs. 64,000 for irrigation works, against which the outlay incurred amounted to Rs. 1,61,625 and Rs. 75,757, respectively. The unspent balance should be worked out without delay.

19. *General*.—The administration of the Public Works Department was hampered by restricted grants under all heads and by the special situation created by damages to roads, buildings and to irrigation works by floods. Some of the departmental methods of work were under scrutiny and revision, and instructions were issued to introduce necessary reforms. The pay and prospects of the executive officers of the department have also recently undergone revision. It is hoped that the execution of works and general supervision over them will show substantial improvement in the near future, and the several irregularities in regard to contracts, rates and delay in closing accounts reported to Government during inspection of Public Works Department offices, will be carefully avoided in future.

K. R. SESHACHAR,

Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department.

Formation of a Tank Survey Division.

READ—

Public Works Secretary's Note No. D. 125, dated 5th August 1925, dealing with Tank Problems.

2. Public Works Secretary's Note No. D. 751, dated the 17th December 1925, submitting proposals for the formation of a Tank Survey Division.

ORDER No. P. W. 3530-36, DATED 31ST MARCH 1926.

The policy of Government with regard to the restoration of tanks has been laid down in G. O. No. R. 1299-1309—L. R. 15-22-1, dated the 8th September 1922. Owing to financial stringency and other causes, the pace of restoration has not been as quick as was expected, although comparatively larger grants were being made in the budget year after year since 1921-22 for the purpose. The necessity for larger grants and a more rapid rate of restoration are being repeatedly pressed on the attention of Government by both the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council from time to time, and these formed the subject of a resolution in the Dasara Representative Assembly of 1924. In the course of the discussion thereon, the representatives brought to notice the great hardships suffered by the agriculturists owing to the neglected condition of tanks throughout the State and the necessity for an annual grant of 10 lakhs of rupees for Tank Restoration. In the following year, another resolution was moved in the June Session of the Legislative Council in the same matter. In winding up the debate on that occasion, the Dewan President said:—

"Government are convinced that the welfare of the raiyat population, which no doubt is retarded to a large extent by the delay which has taken place during the last half a century in this important matter, depends greatly on the quick restoration of minor tanks."

In his concluding remarks at the October Session of the Representative Assembly in 1925, the Dewan said:—

"It is necessary that tanks once restored should not be allowed to deteriorate year after year and the question of a suitable organisation to carry out such works, which are generally neglected by the raiyats under the existing conditions of village life, will be taken up by Government immediately. In this connection, I again wish to emphasise the importance of planning out a large programme for tank restoration. The question of a tank survey for collecting the necessary data will also be taken up early. I am confident that the Government will be able to lay down a definite policy to find the ways and means according to the rough estimate of annual expenditure already indicated in my opening speech."

2. The Tank System of Mysore is responsible for the irrigation of not less than 500,000 acres (against only about 120,000 acres under all river channels in the State), and a revenue of about 33½ lakhs to the State. Taking Rs. 50 as the average yield per acre, the property represents an annual yield of 2½ crores to the agriculturists of the State. Further, even the wells on the Mysore table-land are reported to be showing a tendency to dry up in many places owing to the silting up of tanks. In spite of the extreme importance of the question, it has to be admitted that full, definite and up-to-date information in regard to the condition of the tanks has not been collected, with the result that the work of restoration is not carried on according to a definite programme based on technical investigation of all the tanks in a series and their present condition.

3. As a preliminary, therefore, to more energetic action and for ensuring more efficient methods of restoration, it is necessary to form a Tank Survey Division to collect the most essential particulars that will enable the restoration work to proceed on correct data, specially as it is anticipated that larger grants will be available in the near future for such works.

4. Government consider that it is not desirable to entrust this special work to the regular Public Works Department Establishments. Its importance as well as its urgency demands that undivided attention should be devoted to it so as to bring it to completion within the shortest possible time after which restoration work can be undertaken on a larger and more extensive scale. They are therefore pleased to direct that a Special Division to be termed "Tank Survey Division" be formed with two Sub-Divisions attached to it, for a period of six months in the first instance, with an establishment costing Rs. 23,000 nearly as detailed in the margin. The scheme will be given effect to, (in the first instance, in the Districts of Kolar and Tumkur which contain a large number of tanks.

FOR THE SURVEY DIVISION WITH
HEADQUARTERS AT BANGALORE.

- 1. Executive Engineer.
- 1. Sub-Overseer.
- 1. Clerk.
- 1. Draftsman.
- 3. Peons.

FOR THE TWO SUB-DIVISIONS AT
TUMKUR AND KOLAR.

- 2. Sub-Engineers. (To be taken from the regular establishment sanctioned for the Public Works Department.)
- 20. Sub-Overseers.
- 2. Clerks.
- 4. Peons.

5. The main object of the survey should be the collection of all necessary data for preparing a suitable programme for the selection of tanks for restoration or improvement in future. The Chief Engineer is requested to submit, at an early date, for the approval of Government, a detailed note of instructions for the Special Survey Establishment.

6. The Chief Engineer is requested to submit forthwith proposals for organising this establishment, so that it may commence work not later than the 15th April. The expenditure required during 1925-26, will be sanctioned as an additional grant to the Public Works Budget.

K. R. SESHACHAR,

*Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department.*